



SEP 01 2004

Office Action Summary

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
10/685,214	LALLY, THOMAS JOSEPH	
Examiner	Art Unit	
Elizabeth D. Wood	1755	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Specification

The examiner has not checked the specification to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors (grammatical, typographical and idiomatic). Cooperation of the applicant(s) is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant(s) may become aware of in the specification, in the claims and in any future amendment(s) that applicant(s) may file. 

Applicant(s) is also requested to complete the status of any copending applications referred to in the specification by their Attorney Docket Number or Application Serial Number, if any. 

The status of the parent application(s) and/or any other application(s) cross-referenced to this application, if any, should be updated in a timely manner. 

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 6-8 and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. 

These claims are indefinite in the recitation of "preferably". The use of preferably as set forth in the instant claims renders them indefinite because the scope of the claimed component is not clear.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,149,368 to Liu et al.

It should be noted that for the examination of the instantly claimed invention, the examiner has read the claims in light of the specification and considers the metal phosphate and the tricalcium phosphate to be two distinct components, i.e. there must be three different components in the inventive composition.

The instantly claimed invention involves a refractory material containing metal phosphate, metal oxide or hydroxide and tricalcium phosphate. It should be noted that for the examination of the instantly claimed invention, the examiner has read the claims in light of the specification and considers the metal

Art Unit: 1755

phosphate and the tricalcium phosphate to be two distinct components, i.e. there must be three different components in the inventive composition.

Liu et al. disclose a composition comprising a calcium phosphate such as tetracalcium phosphate together with tricalcium phosphate and additionally containing a filler material that can be magnesium oxide or hydroxide. This composition reads directly on the instantly claimed subject matter.

The Liu et al. disclosure can be considered to "differ" from the herein claimed invention in scope, i.e. Liu et al. disclose many other fillers not within the scope of the instant claims. However, the instant claims would have been obvious because it would have been within the skill of the practicing artisan to select one of the possibilities specifically disclosed by the reference, namely metal oxides and hydroxides. The motivation is provided by the prior art itself which clearly discloses functional species. See particularly column 2, lines 44-49 and column 4, second paragraph.

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Any minor differences in the limitations of the dependent claims have been considered. This statement is meant to include limitations such as effective amounts or the presence of components such as setting retarders. These limitations are considered to have been within the skill of the artisan practicing in this field of technology because clearly the artisan will optimize effective performance by working within disclosed ranges or adding known components for known purposes to maximize the performance of the refractory at the minimum cost.

Furthermore, any such differences are deemed to be result-effective variables that one of ordinary skill in the art would be expected to manipulate to advantage. Additionally, such limitations can be considered to have been simply known as conventional to the artisan practicing in the art at the time the invention was made and/or were common practices which were so well known in the art that they would have been taken for granted. MPEP 706.02(a).

If applicant believes that one or more limitations are critical to the invention, then applicant should amend the claims to reflect such critical limitations as well as indicate where in the specification such critical limitations were discussed and demonstrated.

The limitations of all claims have been considered and are deemed to be within the purview of the prior art.

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1-20 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-16 of copending Application No. 10/338,425. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the copending claims represent a species of composition wherein the metal phosphate is potassium phosphate and the metal oxide is magnesium oxide. It is well established that claims to a genus as set forth in the instant application are always obvious over the claimed species.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-7 of U.S. Patent No. 6,533,821. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are

not patentably distinct from each other because they differ from one another only in the scope of coverage being sought.

The patented claims recite a bio-adhesive that contains other components but also clearly sets forth a refractory component that is a species of the claimed refractory component genus. Accordingly, the patented claims describe a composition that fully embraces the refractory composition being claimed in the instant application.

Conclusion

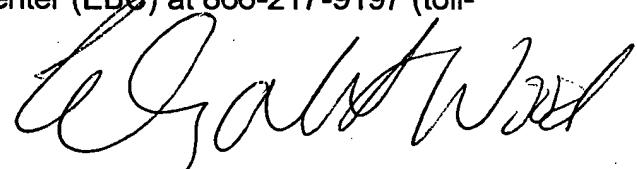
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Applicants are advised that any evidence to be provided under 37 CFR 1.131 or 1.132 and any amendments to the claims and specification should be submitted prior to final rejection to be considered timely. It is anticipated that the next office action will be a final rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elizabeth D. Wood whose telephone number is 571-272-1377. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 5:30-2:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Bell can be reached on 571-272-1364. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Elizabeth D. Wood
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1755

edw

Notice of References Cited		Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination	
		10/685,214	LALLY, THOMAS JOSEPH	
Examiner		Art Unit		Page 1 of 1
Elizabeth D. Wood		1755		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
	A	US-5,149,368	09-1992	Liu et al.	424/602
	B	US-5,709,742	01-1998	Fulmer et al.	106/690
	C	US-6,533,821	03-2003	Lally, Thomas	623/23.62
	D	US-			
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.



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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 110.00)

Complete if Known	
Application Number	101685,214
Filing Date	10/14/2003
First Named Inventor	Lally
Examiner Name	Wood, Elizabeth
Art Unit	1755
Attorney Docket No.	CIP-03-001

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

 Check Credit card Money Order Other None

Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number
Deposit Account Name

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

 Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments
 Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s)
 Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001 770	2001 385	Utility filing fee			
1002 340	2002 170	Design filing fee			
1003 530	2003 265	Plant filing fee			
1004 770	2004 385	Reissue filing fee			
1005 160	2005 80	Provisional filing fee			
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)					

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
Total Claims			
Independent Claims			
Multiple Dependent			

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Description
1202 18	2202 9	Claims in excess of 20
1201 86	2201 43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203 290	2203 145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204 86	2204 43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205 18	2205 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent
SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)		

*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051 130	2051 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath			
1052 50	2052 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet			
1053 130	1053 130	Non-English specification			
1812 2,520	1812 2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination			
1804 920*	1804 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action			
1805 1,840*	1805 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action			
1251 110	2251 55	Extension for reply within first month			
1252 420	2252 210	Extension for reply within second month			
1253 950	2253 475	Extension for reply within third month			
1254 1,480	2254 740	Extension for reply within fourth month			
1255 2,010	2255 1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month			
1401 330	2401 165	Notice of Appeal			
1402 330	2402 165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal			
1403 290	2403 145	Request for oral hearing			
1451 1,510	1451 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding			
1452 110	2452 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable			
1453 1,330	2453 665	Petition to revive - unintentional			
1501 1,330	2501 665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)			
1502 480	2502 240	Design issue fee			
1503 640	2503 320	Plant issue fee			
1460 130	1460 130	Petitions to the Commissioner			
1807 50	1807 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)			
1806 180	1806 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt			
8021 40	8021 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)			
1809 770	2809 385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))			
1810 770	2810 385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))			
1801 770	2801 385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)			
1802 900	1802 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application			
Other fee (specify)		Terminal Disclaimer 2 x 55			110
*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid					
SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)					110

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)

Thomas J. Lally

Registration No.
(Attorney/Agent)

(Complete if applicable)

Telephone 630-920-8679

Signature

Thomas J. Lally

Date 9/10/04

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



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Thomas Joseph Bally

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- Credit Card Payment Form
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- Terminal Disclaimer - Provisional
- Amendments in response to OA dated 6/17/2004
- Copy of OA.

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